

Good Joseph Had a Garden

(Sung to “Abide O Dearest Jesus”)

Good Joseph had a garden,
Close by that sad green hill
Where Jesus died a bitter death
To save mankind from ill.

One evening in that garden,
Their faces dark with gloom,
They laid the Saviour’s body
Within good Joseph’s tomb.

There came the holy women
With spices and with tears;
The angels tried to comfort them,
But could not calm their fears.

Came Mary to that garden
And sobbed with heart forlorn;
She thought she heard the gardener ask
“Whom seekest thou this morn?”

She heard her own name spoken,
And then she lost her care:
All in his strength and beauty
The risen Lord stood fair!

Good Joseph had a garden;
Amid its trees so tall
The Lord Christ stood on Easter Day:
He lives to save us all.

And as he rose at Easter
He is alive for ay,
The very same Lord Jesus Christ
Who hears us sing to-day.

Go tell the Lord Christ’s message,
The Easter triumph sing,
Till all his waiting children know
That Jesus is their King.

(Alda Marguerite Milner-Barry (1875-1940).
The hymn was first published in the Church and School
Hymnal in 1926)

All Christians Who Have been Baptized (LSB 596)

(Sung to "If Thy Beloved Son of God")

All Christians who have been baptized
Who know the God of heaven
And in whose daily life is prized
The name of Christ once given.
Consider now what Christ has done
The gifts he gives to everyone
Baptized into Christ Jesus.

You were before your day of birth,
Indeed from your conception,
Condemned and lost with all the earth,
None good without exception.
For like your parents' flesh and blood
Turned inward from the highest good
You constantly denied Him.

But all of that was washed away
Immersed and drowned forever.
The water of your Baptism
Restored again whatever
Old Adam and his sin destroyed
And all our sinful selves employed
According to our nature.

In Baptism we put on Christ
Our shame is fully covered
With all that He once sacrificed
And freely for us suffered
For here the flood of His own blood
Now makes us holy, right, and good
Before our heavenly Father.

O Christian, firmly hold this gift
And give God thanks forever!
It gives the power to the uplift
In all that you endeavor.
When nothing else revives your soul,
Your baptism stands and makes you whole
And then in death completes you.

So use it well! You are made new,
In Christ a new creation!
As faithful Christians live and do
Within your own vocation!
Until that day when you possess
His glorious robe of righteousness
Bestowed on you forever.